GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:475
ANSWERED ON:20.02.2003
CAPTIVE POWER GENERATION CAPACITY
JAI PRAKASH

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the available captive power generation capacity in the country is not being used properly;

(b) if so, whether the Government have prepared any plan to use captive power plants to their full capacity;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there are many such power plants in private sector in the country which are not generating any power even after installation; and

(e) the measures being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to tackle the crisis?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER

(a) to (c) : Under Section 44 of the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, the StateElectricity Boards (SEBs) give consent to setting up of captive power plants by various industries. As per information available with the Government, as on March 31, 2001,selected industries (i.e. those having an installed capacity of 1 MW and above) have setup a captive generating capacity of 15,823 MW in the country and their gross generation during 2000-01 was 56,812 GWH.Therefore it cannot be said that available captive generation in the country is not being used properly.

On July 11, 2001 the Ministry of Power has circulated a Captive PowerPolicy prepared by the Ministry of Power in consultation with the Central ElectricityAuthority to all the State Governments and Union Territories which recommendspurchase of power by State Utilities from spare capacity in captive power plants. The policy suggests that State Utilities could purchase power from captive power plants at the tariffs which may be fixed after mutual discussion and could be based on pooled variable charge of thermal power station operating in the SEB plus some percentage of the pooled variable charges as incentive.Tariff could also be based on the highest variable cost in the system or actual variable cost of CPP, whichever is lower and some percentage of the variable cost as an incentive.

In the Conference of the State Power Ministers held at New Delhi on 5thAugust, 2002, a strategy was evolved to tackle the power demand during the then prevailing drought situation. The strategy is evolved included, inter-alia, increase of generation from existing thermal power plants, utilization of spare capacity of captive power plants and inter-regional transfer of power from power surplus regions to deficit regions.

(d) : No, Sir.

(e) : Does not arise.